

Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Friday - 25 April 1952

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1. At the request of Roger Jones, Assistant Director of the Bureau of the Budget, I talked with Spencer Platt regarding the Bureau of the Budget's study of the possibility of merging Civil Service Retirement into Social Security. I informed Mr. Platt that CIA has special problems in this field, and that we would like an opportunity to be advised on the progress of the study. He stated that as soon as they completed the fact finding stage, he would inform us so that we could discuss the matter with the Bureau of the Budget and present our situation for their consideration. He assured us that he would keep us informed and call us at the appropriate time. Mr. Platt pointed out that the President was anxious to bring public employees under the Old Age and Survivors Insurance program, particularly in view of the fact that many Government employees (who are under Civil Service Retirement Benefits while working for the Government) have come from private employment covered by Social Security and ultimately many of them return to private employment. Such employees are therefore under two different retirement systems during their working careers, and the President hopes to eliminate this dual situation.

2. In view of the fact that the Senate Finance Committee was considering the House approved bill to amend the Tariff Act in connection with the Customs duties, I discussed with [] STATINTL the possibility of securing an amendment in line with the needs of the Sovmat program. [] and I concluded that on the record STATINTL the Customs laws should not present a sufficient obstacle to bringing in Sovmat material, particularly in view of our working relationships with Customs and Treasury. Our relations with Customs were confirmed in a call to [] Deputy Assistant Deputy/I&S. We then discussed the problem in detail with [] Chief of the Sovmat STATINTL program. Our impression from [] was that he had not sufficiently explored the possibility of using certain CIA facilities for the STATINTL importation of Sovmat material, nor had he seemingly made the correct approaches to Treasury in 1950 in order to secure their permanent cooperation. [] and I then suggested to [] STATINTL that his office review the complete Sovmat problem prior to attempting any specific legislative remedy.

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